mercially viable and that the State Government did not agree with the conclusion of the Western Railway in this regard;

(b) if so, whether the Railway authorities have received comments of the State Government on the survey report and what is the reaction thereto; and

(c) whether Government propose to conduct an independent assessment of the commercial viability of this project in view of the fact that industrially and commeacially developed area in and around Indore, will get a direct link with the other industrial and commercial centres of the country thereby generating a lot of passenger and goods traffic for the railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Comments of the State Government have been received. A fresh reappraisal-cum-feasibility survey is presently being done.

Youth Hostels in Madhya Pradesh

1922. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it s a fact that although Government have identified Khajuraho, Indore, Pachamari and Jabalpur in Madhya Pradesh as suitable places for the construction of Youth Hostals, no funds have so far been released for this purpose;

(b) by when the funds are likely to be released for the construction of Youth Hostels at these places; and

(c) whether Government propose to identify more places for the construction of Youth Hostels in Madhya Pradesh Keeping in view the area and population of the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Release of funds for the construction of youth hostels at these places would be considered only after the subject is transferred to the Department of Affairs by the State Government and suitable land measuring 2 to 3 acres is provided by it.

(c) Subject to the above condition being fulfilled; it is proposed to allocate one more youth hostel to Madhya Pradesh during the Seventh Five Year Plan, provided land is made available at the selected place.

Halt of Indian Airlines' Ahmedabad-Calcutta flights Indore

1923. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received proposals recently to the effect that Indian Airlines Ahmedabad-Calcutta flight should make a halt at Indore also so that Industrially and commercially advanced region, in and around Indore gets connected with two important trade and industrial centres of he country;

(b) if so, what is Government's response thereto;

(c) whether it is also a fact that no place in the entire state of Madhya Pradesh has any direct air-link with any town/city in the eastern and southern part of the country; and

(d) if so, what staps are proposed to be taken by Government to provide any such air-link?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Indiian Airlines is presently facing shortage in aircraft capacity, and as such is operating Boeing 737 services on Bombay/Ahmedabad/Patna/Kanpur/Calcutta in the afternoon hours. Due to non-availability of night-landing facilities it is not possible to operate via Indore. However, Indian Airlines will consider operating via Indore, when adequate infrastructural facilities and additional aircraft capacity are made available.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) Air links between city-pairs are provided depending on the traffic-potential. The present traffic-potential between the cities in Madhya Pradesh and cities in Eastern or Southern parts of the country does not justify an air-link. As and when the traffic potential improves, Indian Airlines would consider such air links between city-pairs.

Construction of a Hotal in Madhya Pradesh by Hotel Corporation of India

1924. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state

(a) whether the Hotel Corporation of India propose to construct a hotel in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Hotel Corporation of India while selecting places for construction of hostels, besides the issue of commercial viability, also takes into account factors like tourist potential and the historical imprtance of the places?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Hotel Corporation of India is a wholly owned subsidiary of Air-India. Therefore, while selecting places for construction of hotels, the primary objective is to ensure that Air-India's business as an air carrier will be supported and enhanced.

Defective engines of Airbus A-320 aircraft

1925. SHRI DINKARRAO GOVINDRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that engines of Airbus A-320 aircraft proposed to be purchased by Indian Airlines are repored to be defective;

(b) whether Government are aware that Lufthansa Airlines have expressed doubt about the efficiency of the engines of Airbus A-320;

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereon; and

(d) whether Government propose to reconsider its decision regarding the purchase of this aircraft?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER). (a) V-2500 engine which will be fitted on A-320 Airbus aircraft to be acquired by Indian Airlines is still under development.

(b) While there are some press reports to the effect that Lufthansa-Air lines may be reconsidering